1st May 1937, on pages 285—288 in Part II of the Cochin Government Gazette, dated 22nd May 1937.

94. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** *(Urakam).*—Will the Government be pleased to give a list of text-books and copy books now used in schools, the monopoly for the supply of which is given to Messrs. V. Sundara Ayyar and Sons, the Deccan Publishing House and the V. V. Publishing Company?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—Malayalam Text-books for the primary classes to the V. V. Publishing Company. Malayalam copy books for primary classes to Messrs. V. Sundara Iyer and Sons. None to the Deccan Publishing House.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Am I to take it that these companies have no text books for the higher classes?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—They may have.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—The Hon'ble Member refers only to monopolies.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—What I meant was the text books for which they had a monopoly for a particular number of years.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction).*—There is no question of monopoly there. The text books are prescribed for certain definite periods, one year or two years and the Hon'ble Member wants to know whether they are the publishers of any of the text books for other classes. I can answer that question with a little notice.

Mr. President.—Government misunderstood your question.

Liquor shops—reduction of.

95. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon** *(Chittur Rural).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) what they have done this year and the last by way of furthering their avowed policy of gradual prohibition;

(2) how many they have reduced in the number of shops this year?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner)*—

(1) Reduced the number of shops wherever possible. Raised the cost of liquor by introducing additional fees, etc., consistent with the policy of maximum revenue and minimum consumption.

(2) In the last eleven years a total number of 163 shops have been abolished and things have now come to such a condition that it is not possible to reduce the number any more at present. Therefore no shops were abolished this year.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural)*.—Am I to understand that the Government have given up the policy of prohibition?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner)*.—There was no occasion to consider that question. Government considered it once and tried it at Nemmara a few years ago and that was not a success.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri)*.—In view of what is obtaining on the other side of the Bharatha River from the 14th of July last, will you seriously consider to have a well thought out scheme which will lead to total prohibition at least after a number of years?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner)*.—The Government have no idea at present to consider the question of prohibition.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri)*.—In the light of the suggestion now thrown out will the Government be pleased to take up that question seriously especially because in Salem District they have taken up the question of prohibition?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner)*.—Government can only answer that they will note this suggestion.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*.—What is the total number of shops?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner.)*—656.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*.—Will the reduction of these shops reduce the number of consumers also?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner)*.—We have no statistics on that point.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know in view of the introduction of additional fees consistent with the policy of maximum revenue and minimum consumption, on whom the incidence of this additional fees falls?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—It falls on the consumer obviously.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know whether the systematic policy of our benign Government regarding the grant of remissions to the toddy shop bidders for which you have asked for supplementary grants does not oppose the spirit of the answer that was graciously given to the previous answer?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—Government do not think that there is any connection with the Hon'ble Member's question and the answer previously given.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Will you be pleased to tell us what approximately the amount of remission of kists is that you granted to the bidders at least for one year, viz., last year?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—For the year 1110 we gave a remission of half a month's kist.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Am I to understand that it has become the rule or only the exception?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—Certainly it is an exception. The very fact that it was not given last year and that it is not proposed to be given this year and it has not been granted for the last so many previous years shows that.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—For how many years were you pleased to give this concession?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—It was given for 1110. I think it was given in 1106 or 1104 and such sporadic years like that.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know for what purpose you asked for the supplementary grants coming to thousands of rupees this year for giving remission of kists which we voted?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—I said it was for the year 1110. The payments were to be made in 1111. Several bidders did not take advantage of the offer and therefore a sum of Rs. 3000/- and odd had to be voted this year so that these people who did not take advantage may be given the remission this year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—May I know whether they are really approaching the goal of prohibition?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—We have stated our policy in answer to sub-division 1. At present there is no proposal at all to consider the question of prohibition.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—I want to know the opinion of the Government after pursuing the policy of approaching to prohibition how they have succeeded.

Mr. President.—They are in the same place.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Are they really satisfied with that? Do they propose to make an honest attempt to progress?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—It depends upon the words 'prohibition' and the significance that is attached to it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know whether the Hon'ble Member is correct in his figures. The amount comes to Rs. 3938 and odd. I want to know whether this is the only amount that you have asked for by way of supplementary grants.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—I said 3000 and odd. So far as I remember that is all I have moved for three or four days ago. I do not remember whether demands have been moved months or years ago.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know whether you will look up the papers and find out whether in the Vrischigam and Makaram session you have not asked for some amount for giving this unhappy remission of kists?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Excise Commissioner).*—Whatever amounts I have moved as supplementary demands, I can assure this House, that they were for the remission of kists of

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shops of 1110 which were granted towards the end of Medam 1111. Most of the shop keepers took advantage of it and it is towards the payment to others who did not take advantage of it that the supplementary demands were moved.

Thachu Sastra Pandit—Trichur Trades School—appointment of.

96. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Wadakkancheri).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether a 'തച്ചു ശാസ്ത്രപണ്ഡിതൻ' had been recently appointed in the Trichur Trades School;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, who is the individual appointed, what is his age and what are his general and special educational qualifications?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—

(a) Yes.

(b) Venatt Narayanan Namboodiri —Age 20. He is well versed in Malayalam, Sanskrit, Astrology and Thachu Sastrom, and knows a little of English also.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know what was the provocation for the appointment of this young Thachu Sastra Pandit?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—There was no provocation at all. So far as the qualification is concerned there is no special qualification prescribed. He was one of the applicants. The Committee that made the representation thought he was a desirable man to be appointed. They made the recommendation and the Government accepted it.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know whether he has got practical experience in Thachu Sastram?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—I am not in a position to say.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—Is practical experience necessary?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—I do not think that it is necessary. Much of theory is necessary.

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